

CLAIMS

1. A cigar-cutter device comprising a pair of blades (1, 1'), said blades being superposed, and each blade being movable in pivoting about an axis (YY', Z₁Z₁', Z₂Z₂') and including handle and drive means (3, 3') and a sharp edge (2, 2'), said sharp edge presenting an inside face co-operating in a cutting plane (P) with the inside face of the cutting edge of the other blade, said device further comprising means for connecting together said two superposed blades, comprising at least one connection element (8₁, 8₂; 23₁, 23₂) located at said pivot axis (YY', Z₁Z₁', Z₂Z₂'),

the device being characterized in that it includes mechanical coupling means (6, 18, 18', 20, 20') for coupling pivoting of the two blades about their said respective pivot axes, said mechanical coupling means comprising at least two toothed portions (18, 18', 20, 20') secured respectively to each of said blades (1, 1'), and co-operating by meshing in such a manner as to enable said blades to move simultaneously and symmetrically about a middle axis (XX'), said sharp edges (2, 2') presenting respective leading profiles that are concave and symmetrical to each other about said axis (XX'), said profiles preferably being substantially semicircular.

2. A device according to claim 1, characterized in that it includes at least one plate (4₁, 4₂) including an orifice (5₁, 5₂) that is symmetrical about said middle axis (XX') and that is preferably circular, being suitable for receiving a said cigar, said plate being secured to the two blades at least via their said pivot axis (or axes) (YY', Z₁Z₁', Z₂Z₂'), and said plate being disposed against the outside face (1₂, 1'₂) of one of said blades.

3. A device according to claim 2, characterized in that it has two of said plates (4₁, 4₂) placed respectively

against each of said outside faces (1_2 , $1'_2$) of each of said blades (1, 1'), said two orifices (5₁, 5₂) being identical and placed in register with each other.

5 4. A device according to any one of claims 1 to 3, characterized in that each said toothed portion (18, 18', 20, 20') is inscribed in a circular envelope centered on said pivot axis (or axes) (YY', Z₁Z'₁, Z₂Z'₂) of said blades.

10 5. A device according to claim 4, characterized in that said two blades (1, 1') have a common said pivot axis (YY'), and one of said blades has a said toothed portion that is convex (18), and the other of said blades has a toothed portion that is concave (18'), with a pitch circle diameter greater than that of said convex toothed portion, and in that it includes two gearwheels (6₁, 6₂) that are secured to each other and superposed, sharing a common axis of rotation (Y₂Y'₂), preferably where appropriate secured to said plate (4₁, 4₂), a first gearwheel (6₁) meshing with said convex toothed portion (18) and a second gearwheel (6₂) meshing with said concave toothed portion (18').

15 20 6. A device according to any one of claims 1 to 4, characterized in that said two blades (1, 1') have respective distinct ones of said pivot axes (Z₁Z'₁, Z₂Z'₂), and each blade includes a said toothed portion that is convex (20) meshing directly with the identical toothed portion (20') of the other blade.

25 30 7. A device according to any one of claims 1 to 6, characterized in that said sharp edge (2, 2') of a said blade (1, 1') is situated between said pivot axis (YY', Z₁Z'₁, Z₂Z'₂) and said drive means (3, 3') thereof, said drive means preferably including an orifice suitable for receiving at least one digit.

8. A device according to any one of claims 1 to 7, characterized in that said connection means further comprise resilient connection means (7) between said two blades (1, 1').

9. A device according to claim 8, characterized in that said resilient means (7) comprise a compression or torsion spring holding said blades (1, 1') in an open position when the device is at rest, and said device further includes temporary closure means (16, 16') preventing relative displacement of the two blades (1, 1') when said device is at rest, preferably means for holding said blades in a close-together position.

15 10. A device according to any one of claims 1 to 9, characterized in that it includes abutment guide means enabling the relative displacement of each blade (1, 1') to be limited, preferably comprising at least one slider 20 (9) suitable for moving in at least one slideway (15, 15') that is preferably circular, said slider being secured to at least one of said blades or said plate (4₁, 4₂), and said slideway being provided in the other one of said blades or where appropriate in said plate (4₁, 4₂).

25 11. A method of cutting a cigar using a device according to any one of claims 1 to 10, in which said two sharp edges (2, 2') are spaced apart and a cigar is inserted between said two edges, preferably inside an orifice (5₁, 30 5₂) provided in one of said plates (4₁, 4₂), and then said edges are moved towards each other by imparting said simultaneous and symmetrical relative displacement so as to cut the cigar, preferably with the help of said drive means (3, 3').